

Yes, Leader CANTOR has been focused on making life better for the American people, and his recent contributions in the areas of workforce training and pediatric research will have a lasting impact on generations to come.

He has also been a mentor and a friend to many new Members of the House. He and his wife, Diana, have led several freshman trips to Israel for many years, and I was very fortunate my husband and I were able to participate on one of those trips last summer.

Seeing this innovative nation and preeminent ally is truly a life-changing experience. In Israel, I found a people that craves peace for all of its citizens of all faiths, even when faced with enemies who want nothing more than to erase Israel from the map.

I want to say, loud and clear, that Members of this body are committed to Israel. We stand together with Israel and its obligation to defend its people from attacks from the terrorist group Hamas.

We are so grateful we have had a member of our leadership team so committed to a strong and thriving Israel. Leader CANTOR's efforts in Congress have lived up to the title he holds. He is a true leader. This is a tribute to that strong leadership for Israel.

VETERANS DESERVE CARE AND BENEFITS

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, the recent revelations of corruption and scandal at the VA have cast a dark cloud over a Department that should be held to the highest possible standard.

We cannot forget the cost of war does not stop when the last bullets are fired. We have an obligation to make sure that every last veteran gets the care and benefits that he or she earned on the battlefield.

The compromise that is before us today is an important step forward. It provides emergency funding for access to timely care and invests in the VA's long-term capacity to address veterans' needs, but still, there is more to be done.

I regularly meet with young veterans in San Diego who are having trouble adapting to civilian life. These are some of the brightest, hardest-working men and women in the United States, and yet they often find it hard to prove that the skills they developed in the military have prepared them for work or school.

To help them, we need to take a broader look at the challenges veterans face entering the workforce, getting an education, and managing their finances as they transition out of the service.

I certainly look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that our veterans have the tools they need to succeed. It is the least we can do.

RECOGNIZING NAVAL CHAPLAINS

(Mr. WITTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our military chaplains. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee and the Congressional Prayer Caucus, I am blessed to often witness firsthand the importance of a strong chaplain corps.

Two chaplains I have encountered recently are prime examples: Navy Commander Roy Hoffman and Navy Captain Michael Gore.

Commander Hoffman serves as the senior chaplain aboard USS *Ronald Reagan*, an aircraft carrier with over 4,000 sailors, most of whom work long, exhausting hours, only to return to cramped racks for a brief rest.

Commander Hoffman and his staff support these sailors through traditional prayer and worship, as well as counseling, mentorship, and community outreach.

As senior chaplain at the Naval Academy, Captain Gore is a valuable resource for the thousands of midshipmen facing rigorous academics and training as they prepare to be leaders in our military.

Serving in our All-Volunteer Force can be challenging, and the presence of chaplains like Commander Hoffman and Captain Michael Gore is critical for maintaining strong morale across our military.

Please join me in showing support and gratitude toward all of our military chaplains.

MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, too many middle class families are still struggling to make ends meet. Income inequality continues to grow, and unemployment remains unacceptably high, particularly in my home of State of Rhode Island. Our constituents deserve solutions that will promote job creation and increase economic opportunities for everyone.

One of the most important things that we can do for our country is to ensure that our workers have 21st century skills for a 21st century economy. In particular, I have been proud to work across the aisle to expand career and technical education, securing a \$52 million increase for funding for Perkins Act career training programs this year alone.

However, skills training is only one piece of the puzzle. We must incentivize companies to bring jobs back home, increase the minimum wage so that full-time workers aren't living in poverty, and invest in infrastructure to ensure safety, boost commerce, and create jobs.

Mr. Speaker, economic opportunity should not be subject to partisan politics. It is time to act on these common-sense policies and provide all Americans with the means to make it in America.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

(Mr. MULLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to an ongoing employment challenge facing our Nation's veterans. When I go back home to Oklahoma, I speak with a lot of local veterans who can't find jobs.

It is unfortunate because these men and women are some of the hardest-working individuals you will ever find. I know because I have hired veterans in my private sector business, and I currently have two congressional team members who are veterans.

So I can tell you they are motivated and they are ready to work, but we must remember that serving our Nation is no easy task, and these men and women are facing transitional challenges. On top of that, our wounded warriors battle a whole host of adversities, but with the right training, I have seen our veterans do amazing things.

In my district, companies like Baker Hughes—one of the world's largest oil field service companies—are training and hiring veterans and seeing tremendous results.

So I stand here today to encourage both the private and public sector to come together to give our Nation's heroes a fighting chance for their incredible service to this great Nation.

GOP LAWSUIT TO NOWHERE

(Ms. SEWELL of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to denounce the baseless, misguided, and partisan lawsuit that our Republican colleagues have brought to the floor for a vote today. This lawsuit is just a continuance of the outright disrespect and disdain that the House Republicans have given President Barack Obama since he was elected.

While millions of Americans are waiting for Congress to renew emergency unemployment insurance and raise the minimum wage, we are here debating a senseless lawsuit. I am disappointed by the shameful partisan politics that is being played.

In contrast, I am proud of the work that we are doing as House Democrats trying to put the American people first with our Make It In America agenda and working to jump-start the middle class. With a long laundry list of things we need to get done, it is time to promote the people's business, not our political parties' business.

Enough is enough. With only 2 days left before our 5-week recess, we need